

Drought Information Statement for Southern Wisconsin

Valid October 19, 2023

Issued By: NWS Milwaukee

Contact Information: nws.milwaukee@noaa.gov

- This product will be updated November 2, 2023 or sooner if conditions change considerably.
- Please see all currently available products at https://drought.gov/drought-information-statements
- Please visit https://www.weather.gov/mkx/DroughtInformationStatement for previous statements.





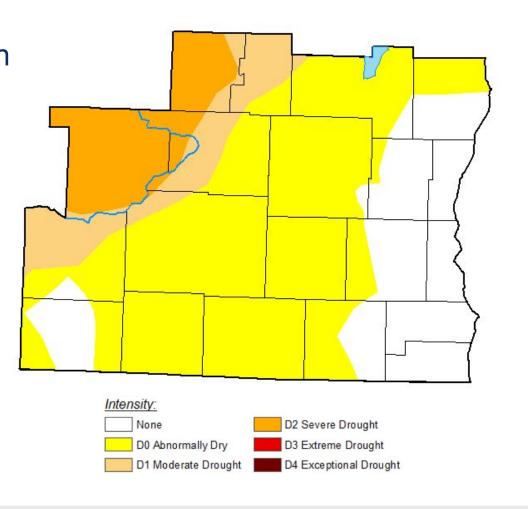




Wisconsin Drought Update

- Drought conditions improved 1 to 2 categories across parts of southern Wisconsin.
- Severe drought continues in Sauk, Marquette, and western Columbia county.
- Conditions are rated as Abnormally Dry to No Drought across southeast and much of south-central Wisconsin.

U.S. Drought Monitor
Milwaukee/
Sullivan, WI WFO

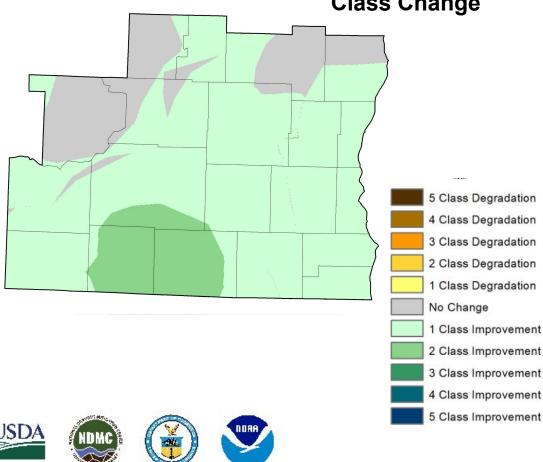


October 17, 2023

(Released Thursday, Oct. 19, 2023) Valid 8 a.m. EDT

droughtmonitor.unl.edu

1 Week Drought Condition Class Change





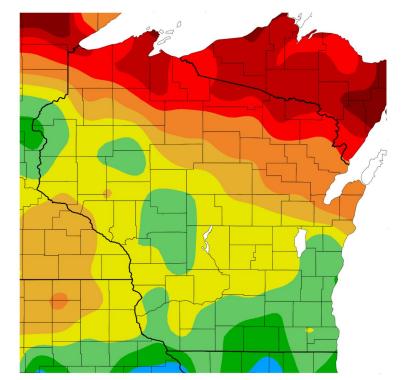


Precipitation

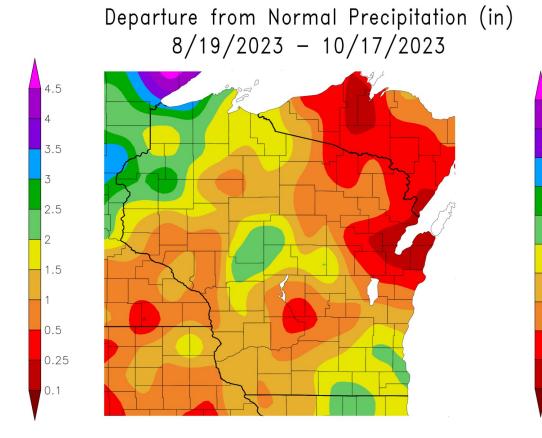
Images courtesy of High Plains Regional Climate Center

Past 30 Days Total Precipitation

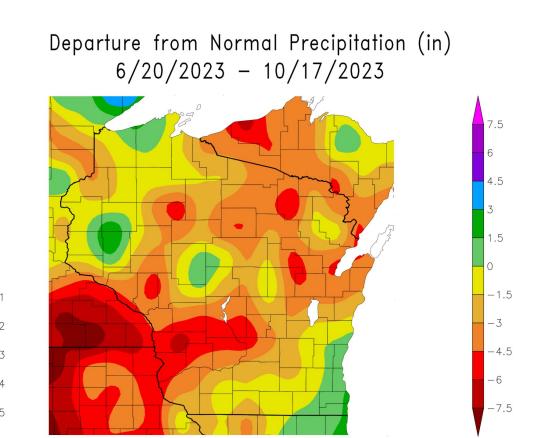
Precipitation (in) 10/11/2023 - 10/17/2023



Past 2 Months Precipitation Anomaly



Past 4 Months Precipitation Anomaly



- Rainfall over the past week was 1.5 to 3 inches across southern Wisconsin, which is 3 to 4 times the weekly average.
- Areas north and west of Madison received less than far southern and southeast Wisconsin. These areas have deficits of 2 to 4 inches over the past 2 months (center) and 3 to 6 inches over the past 4 months (right), which is why Severe Drought continues in that area.
- Precipitation anomalies are positive across southeast Wisconsin over the past 2 to 4 months (center and right) and as a result, drought conditions improved. Deficits up to 3 inches remain for the calendar year (not shown).

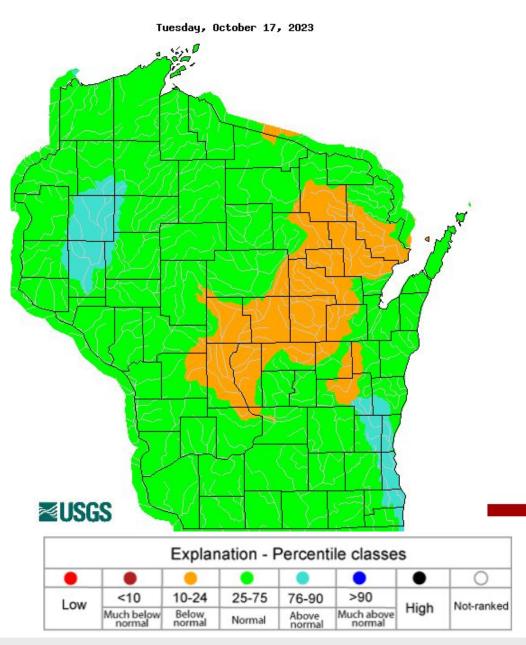




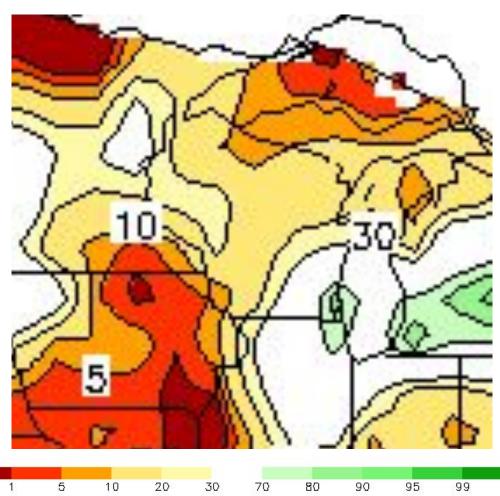
Current Conditions

- Streamflows are in the 25-75th percentile for most of southern Wisconsin, which has increased slightly over the past week. Values are in the 76-90th percentile in far southeast Wisconsin.
- Soil moisture is in the 10-70th percent range in southern Wisconsin, with the lowest values in southwest Wisconsin.
- Soil moisture is in the 70-80th percentile in southeast Wisconsin. This is the first time values are positive since May.

28 Day Streamflow



Climate Prediction Center Soil Moisture Percentile 10/17/2023







Summary of Impacts

Links: See/submit Condition Monitoring Observer Reports (CMOR) and view the Drought Impacts Reporter

Hydrologic Impacts

Streamflows are near average for most of southern Wisconsin

Agricultural Impacts

 Due to more demand and poor growing conditions, hay prices have rose dramatically this summer and fall. There are some reports of some producers selling livestock due to a lack of water and having to feed hay. <u>USDA Crop Conditions Report</u>.

Fire Hazard Impacts

DNR Fire Danger is rated as low

Mitigation Actions

- A <u>drought task force</u> has been activated in Wisconsin.
- Please refer to your municipality and/or water provider for mitigation information

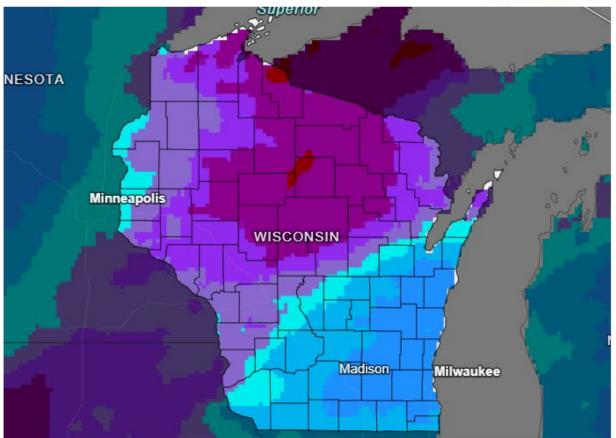




7 Day Precipitation Forecast

7-Day Quantitative Precipitation Forecast





Predicted Inches of Precipitation



Source(s): National Weather Service Weather Prediction Center Data Valid: 10/18/23

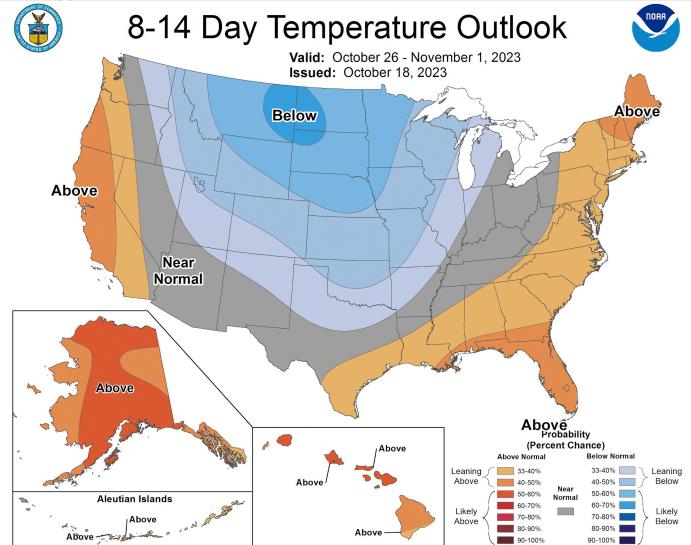
Drought.gov

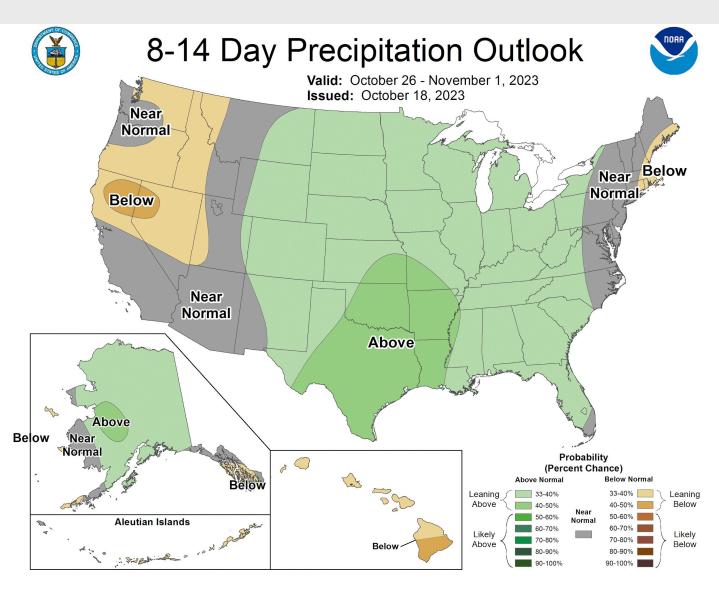
- There are a few chances for light rain over the next few days.
- Additional precipitation is possible for the middle to end of next week. There is uncertainty with precipitation amounts this far out but southern Wisconsin could see 0.5 to 1 inches.



Week 2 Outlook

Images from the Climate Prediction Center





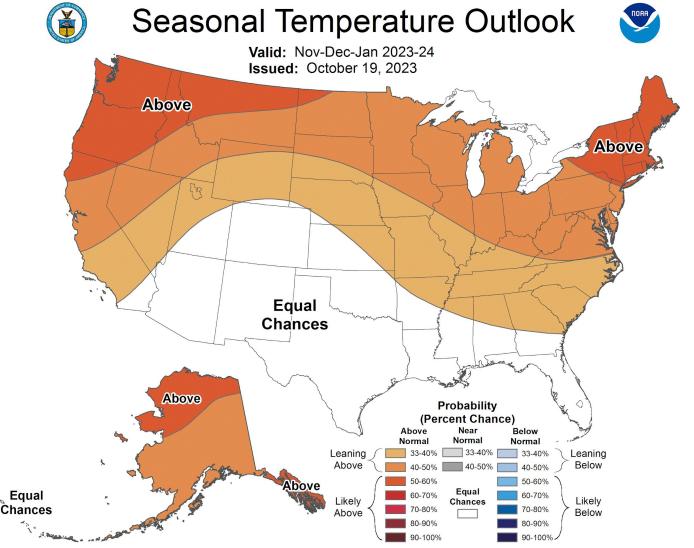
• During the October 26- November 1 there are increased odds for below average temperature and slightly increased odds for above average precipitation.

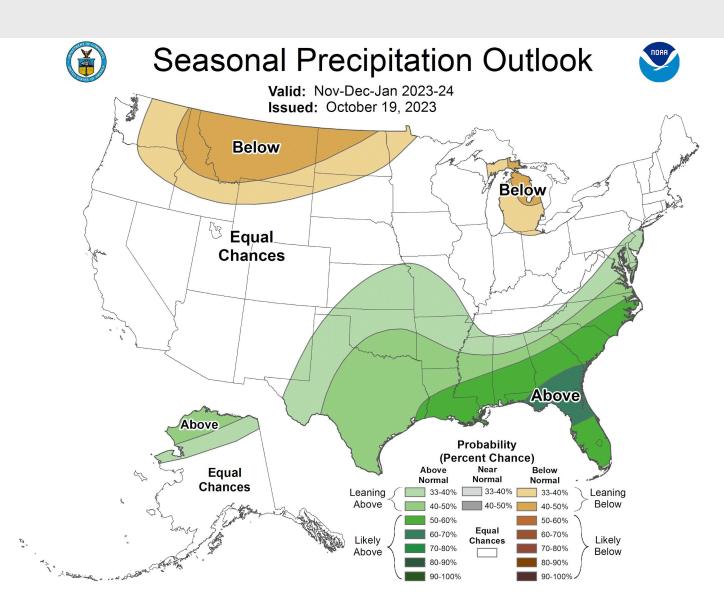




Extended Nov-Dec-Jan Outlook

Images from the Climate Prediction Center





• For the Nov-Dec-Jan season there are increased odds for above average temperature and equal chance for above, below and near average precipitation, meaning there is no strong signal one way or another for wetter or drier than average precipitation.



Drought Outlook

The latest monthly and seasonal outlooks can be found on the CPC homepage

- Drought is expected to persist through the fall / early winter
- Several more rounds of rain are needed to improve drought conditions, in areas still in drought in southern Wisconsin

Links to the latest:

Climate Prediction Center Monthly Drought Outlook
Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Drought Outlook

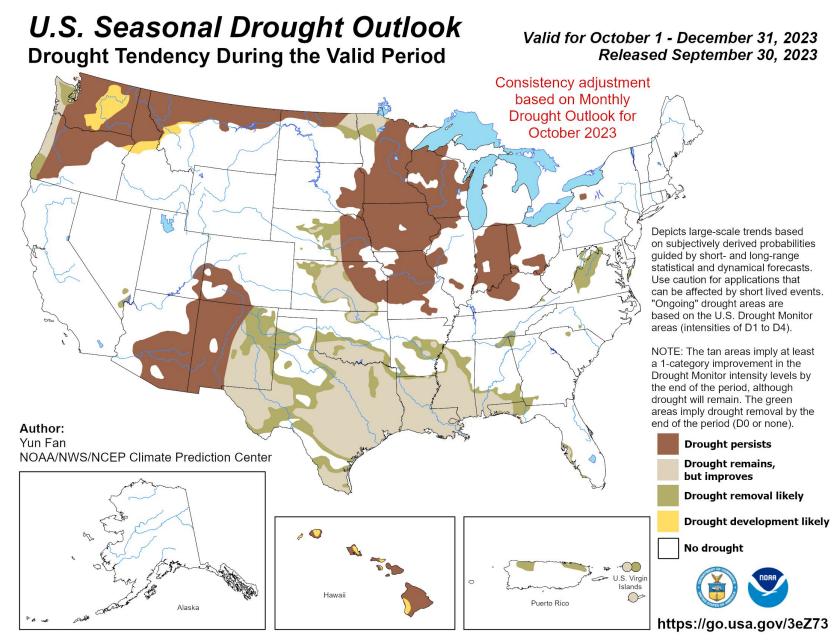


Image Caption: Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Drought Outlook

